the matter of free treatment in private hospitals, the Hon'ble High Court, on 7.2.2006, directed the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Principal Secretary (Health) to forthwith issue directions to all these hospitals and Nursing Homes that Boards in Hindi and English be put up at prominent places indicating that the hospitals and Nursing Homes are providing free treatment to the poor and weaker sections of the society. The Court further directed that the patient in this category should only sign a declaration that his or her income is less than Rs. 2000/- per month which of course will be subject to later verification. The patient will not be denied treatment pending verification of the monthly income.

(b) The condition of free treatment/free bed has been stipulated in case of some of the hospitals allotted land by Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and Land & Development Office (L&DO).

(c) DDA has issued show cause notices to hospitals which were violating the condition of providing free treatment and a system of fortnightly reporting for monitoring compliance has been put in place in association with Directorate of Health Services, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Further, a committee constituted by the Hon'ble High Court has also taken up inspection of the hospitals with regard to free bed/treatment condition.

Lack of safe drinking water

1153. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 80 percent of all diseases and ailments occurred due to lack of safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in metropolitan cities and urban cities of our country and there is great disgrace and dissatisfaction among the people;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken against such gloomy situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Tenth Five Year Plan

document indicates that water borne diseases to the extent of 70-80% are related to water contamination and poor sanitation. "Water", that is to say, "Water supplies" falls within the jurisdiction of the legislative powers of the State Governments *vide* item 17 of the List II-State List under Seventh Schedule referred to in the Article 246(3) of the constitution. However, Ministry of Urban Development has been providing assistance to the State Government under Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP) for water supply projects in small towns with a population upto 20,000 as per 1991/2001 Census. The Centrally sponsored AUWSP has been subsumed in the newly launched scheme of Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT). In order to provide safe drinking water supply and other infrastructure facilities/basic amenities for all cities/towns in the country, Government has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) on 3.12.2005 along with two omnibus schemes namely (i) UIDSSMT and (ii) Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme. 63 cities have been selected on the basis of population criteria as per 2001 census and religious/historic and touristic importance for coverage under the Mission. The cities/towns not covered under JNNURM are eligible for assistance under UIDSSMT. Water supply and sanitation are eligible components for assistance under JNNURM and UIDSSMT.

Bangalore Metro Rail

1154. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned certain funds for the construction of Metro Railways in Bangalore;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned and by when and in that manner the same would be utilized;

(c) by when the work is likely to be started and the areas which would be covered by the Metro Rail; and

(d) the details and status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) No, Sir.